(b) if so, the action Government have taken/propose to take to check such activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) Some movement of Shri Lankan Tamil militants in the coastal areas of Tamil Nadu to obtain supplies of various goods including diesel and petrol has been reported.

(b) The State Govt. has intensified patrolling in the coastal areas, additional police posts have been set up in the coastal belt and police personnel have been provided with sophsisticated weapons. The State Govt. has also detained some militants under the NSA, apart from rounding up a large number of militants not keeping them in Special Camps.

Comprehensive economic package for Punjab

@1348 SHRI VISHWASRAO RAMRAO PATIL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state·

(a) whether it is a fact taht a comprehensive economic package was announced by the Central Government for Punjab,

(b) whether Government have any proposal to review the package; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (c) A set of economic measures for Punjab was announced by the former Prime Minister in the Parliament an 5th October, 1990. Action on the various schemes is being taken by the concerned Ministries/Departments in consultation with the State Government. The progress of the action taken is being reviewed periodically.

Formation of construction industry development board

1349. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to form a construction industry development board;

(b) if so, what are the aims and functions of the proposed board;

(c) by when a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard; and

(d) whether Government anticipate any obstacles in its formation if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI KAMAL MORARKA): (a) A Working Group on Improvement of Methodology and Technology of Construction, constituted by the Planning Commission has recommended the setting-up of a Construction Industry Development Board.

(b) The proposed Board would be a nodal agency to co-ordinate all aspects covering construction activities, such as,

(1) Upgradation of technoloy, material management,

@Previously Unstarred Question 22 transferred from the 27th December, 1990.

(2) Standardisation, modernisation of manufacturing technologies,

(3) Bringing improvements in quality, safety, working environment,

(4) Legislation for safety, social security and welfare of construction workers,

(5) Developing mangerial capabilities and technical skills among construction workers,

(6) Introduction of new building materials so as to bring down cost etc.

(c) and (d) The Report of the Working Group has been circulated for comments to all the concerned Ministries of the Central Government concerned with construction activities.

1350. *Transferred to the 7th January, 1991*]

Request for Microwave linkage to Ahmedabad and Rajkot with other Doordarshan Kendras

1351 SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has made a proposal to establish a Microwave linkage to Ahmedabad and Rajkot with other Kendras of the State for Regional Network; and

(b) if so, whether any provision has been made for such linkage with INSAT-II Programme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. However, it has been decided to distribute Regional TV Service in Gujarat *via* satellite on availability of suitable capacity.

Clearance to Sarapadi Hydroelectric Project in Karnataka

1352. SHRI SHAMIM HASHMI . Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state .

(a) whether Government have finally cleared Sarapadi Hydroelectric Project in Karnataka, and

(b) if so, whether any time schedule has been worked out ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI KAMAL MORARKA) : (a) The Sarapadi Hydro-electric Project 3×30 MW at an estimated cost of Rs. 193.12 crores for the Generation portion and Rs 4.93 crores for associated Transmission portion was accorded techno-economic clearance by the Central Electricity Authority in December, 1990 subject to the following clearance by the Ministry of Environment & Forest :

(i) Both the Generation & Transmission portions from the environment angle;

(ii) the Transmission portion from the forest angle

The project would be processed for final approval after the above clearance are arranged by the State

(b) The time schedule would be worked out after the final clearance of the project.